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President Shelly's NNWO Appointment Gains Council Confirmation



"President Shelly has been very supportive," Pratte said after her confirmation.

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly's appointee to direct the tribe's Washington, D.C. office was confirmed Wednesday afternoon with unanimous approval from the Navajo Nation Council.

Clara Pratte, who was appointed to direct the Navajo Nation Washington Office (NNWO) in March 2011, gain the approval of the council in a 23 – 0 vote.

"I'm glad the Council approved Clara. She is doing an outstanding job in Washington representing the Nation," the President said after her confirmation.

"President Shelly has been very supportive and through his vision and leadership, the NNWO will continue to be a strong voice and advocate for the Navajo people in D.C.," Pratte said.

Pratte is from Lupton, Ariz. and is Kinyaa'aanii and born for Bilagaana. Before her appointment, Pratte worked in President Barack Obama's Administration leading the Office of the Native American at the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Pratte holds a Bachelor's of Science in business from the University of Arizona, a Master's of Science in public policy from Carnegie Mellon University along with certifications in project management and information technology.

Before the confirmation vote, she listed some accomplishments she achieved, which included filling all the vacant positions in the NNWO office.

"I am fortunate to have such an amazing team and I have full faith and confidence in their skills to get the job done," Pratte said.

Council Delegate Lorenzo Curley sponsored the legislation to confirm Pratte.

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